

ELECTRICIANS' EXAMINING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: April 15, 2016
Meeting Location: Central Conference Room, State of Maine – Gardiner Annex
Northern Avenue, Gardiner, Maine

Meeting Began: 8:01 a.m.

Roll Call of Officers:

The following members were present:

Brian McDougal
Gerard Caron
Don Berry
Peter Wilson
Ryan Morgan

The following member(s) were absent:
Earl Sherwood

Staff Present:

Catherine Carroll, Board Administrator
Harley Murray, Board Clerk
Raymond Stanford, Senior Electrical Inspector

AAG Present:

Christopher Mann

Board Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to accept the March 18, 2016 minutes as presented.

Motion: Don Berry
Second: Gerard Caron
Abstention: Brian McDougal
Motion carried

Presentation of Complaint 2015-ELE-11276 Baker

A motion was made to accept signed consent agreement as presented.

Motion: Peter Wilson
Second: Gerard Caron
All in favor
Motion carried

Administrator's Report

Catherine Carroll reported that exam vendor, Prov, is administering several of the electrician exams and is looking into expanding the number of their testing facilities at all of the state's community colleges to make the exam more accessible to candidates enrolled in electrical programs. Work on finalizing the remaining tests continues. Prov has been very communicative during this process and addressing issues that arise.

Catherine is drafting a revision of the Board Statute for consideration of the legislature for the 128th Regular Session. Catherine will rely on Board members, the AAG and the inspectors to collaborate with her on this project. Some of the areas that will be addressed or added are differences between the HP and HPE licenses and taking into consideration work experience and knowledge in place of educational experience when an individual applies to sit for an exam.

The continuing education audit remains a focus and signed consent agreements are coming in resulting from non-compliance with continuing education. As of April 14, 2016, 68% of individuals involved in the audit are in compliance, 7% are not in compliance, and 24% have not responded to the audit. Licensees not in compliance with the audit have been issued consent agreements. Individuals that have not responded will be unable to renew their license until they prove compliance with the continued education requirement or have entered into a consent agreement that resolves non-compliance with the board's continuing education requirement. Due to a high number of individuals that are not in compliance with the Board's requirements, audits will continue to be performed to rectify the nonfulfillment.

Harley Murray has accepted a new job and her last day will be Friday, April 22, 2016.

Adjudicatory Hearing – 2016-ELE-11877 – Campbell

The hearing commenced at 9:21 a.m. and closed for deliberation at 9:52a.m. Mr. Campbell was present and was not represented by counsel.

The Board discussed the education that Mr. Campbell had completed. In review of his file, it was determined that a 45 hour 2014 NEC code course and an additional 720 hours of work experience was needed before Mr. Campbell would be eligible to sit for the exam.

A motion was made to uphold the denial finding that Mr. Campbell is missing the 45 hour 2014 NEC code course and 720 hours of work experience.

Motion: Peter Wilson
Second: Don Berry
Unanimous
Motion carried

Adjudicatory Hearing – 2016-ELE-11955 – Hofhansl

The hearing commenced at 10:39 a.m. and closed for deliberation at 10:56 a.m. Mr. Hofhansl was present via telephone and was not represented by counsel.

Mr. Hofhansl detailed his work history and education.

A motion was made to grant the appeal based.

Motion: Peter Wilson
Second: Gerard Caron
Unanimous
Motion carried

Senior Inspector's Report

Senior Inspector Raymond Stanford reported ongoing issues and concerns about marijuana grow facilities. There has been an increase in the number of inspections that has violations from approximately 20% to 41% with the surge being primarily attributed to these grow facilities. Raymond has been seeing a lot of residences converted to grow facilities and in those situations, a larger service needs to be added to accommodate the equipment being used. Raymond wants to work with DHHS and growers in developing an awareness of the national electrical code and state permitting requirements to reduce violations.

An inspection of a greenhouse was done where the installer was concerned about the rapid shutdown policy. Due to the structure of a greenhouse, the rapid shutdown would not be practical in which Inspector Stanford agreed.

Other Business

Educational provider Penn Foster submitted an application for review. Due to the nature of their program, additional information is required prior to approval. The board discussed and it was decided that the curriculum should be submitted for review.

Christos Xerras submitted an application to provide a 15 hour 2014 NEC code course update. After discussion among the board it was decided that the course did meet requirements.

A motion was made to approve course

Motion: Peter Wilson
Second: Don Berry
All in favor
Unanimous

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the April 15, 2016 meeting at 11:42 am.

Motion: Gerard Caron
Second: Peter Wilson
Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,
Harley Murray, Board Clerk